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Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY: EA:NSILVER:KAM
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----------130243Z 047076 /70
O 130123Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 082508

EXDIS
STADIS//
EYES ONLY FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE
FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 02961 ACTION SECSTATE APR 12, 1977

QTE C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2961

STADIS
EXDIS
EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (WOLFF, LESTER)
SUJ: CODEL WOLFF: THE SALZBERG CONNECTIONS

1. HIS STAFF MEMBER AND SALZBERG SPENT HIGHLY ACTIVE TWO DAYS MEETING LARGELY WITH ANTI-GOVERNMENT FIGURES, INCLUDING MYONGDONG DEFENDENTS, DURING CODEL WOLFF VISIT. AS HE HAD INDICATED HE MIGHT PRIOR ARRIVAL, EXCEPT FOR INITIAL CODEL MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, UNC BRIEFING, AND EMBASSY STAFF AND SMABASSADOR'S RECEPTION, SALZBERG SKIPPED ALL THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS (CALL ON PRIME MINISTER, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BRIEFING AND LUNCH WITH SPEAKER, PANMUNJOM TRIP, ETC). HE SAW INSTEAD TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, VARIETY OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT AMERICAN
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MISSIONARIES, CARDINAL KIM (WITH CONGRESSMAN WOLFF), MYONGDONG DEFENDENTS INCLUDING CHUNG IL-KYUNG AND MRS YI TAI YOUNG, AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, MRS. KIM DAE JUNG, DUP LEADER YANG IL DONG, EX-NDP ASSEMBLY WOMAN KIM OCK SUN, YUN PO SUN (WITH CONGRESSWOMAN MEYNER) AND EHWA UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT KIM OK GIL AND LIBERAL ARTS SCHOOL DEAN HYUN. HE EXPRESSED NO INTEREST IN SEEING ROKG FIGURES UNTIL POLCOUNC

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ASKED HIM MORNING OF SECOND DAY WHETHER EMBASSY COULD HELP HIM
WITH GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS, AN D HE THEN SAID HE WOULD SEE
BLUE HOUSE SECRETARY KIM KYONG WON AT AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION;
HE DI IN FACT TALK TO KIM BRIEFLY AT RECEPTION AS WELL AS
WITH SOME OTHER ASSEMBLED ROKG LEADERS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO HIS TELEGRAPHIC REQUESTS PRIOR TO
ARRIVAL, EMBASSY ARRANGED APPOINTMENTS FOR SALZBERG WITH
AMERICAN MISSIONARIES, CARDINAL KIM, YANG IL DONG, AND KIM
OCK SUN AND SEVERAL TIMES OFFERED TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH
ANYONE ELSE HE WISHED TO SEE EXCEPT UNIMPRISONED MYONGDONG
DEFENDENTS. IN ABSENCE ANSWER FROM DEPARTMENT TO SEOUL 2875
QUERY ON THIS POINT, WHICH DID NOT ARRIVE UNTIL FEW HOURS BEFORE
CODEL DEPARTURE, AMBASSADOR AND LATER POLCOUNS INFORMED SALZBERG
WE ADVISED AGAINST MAKING APPOINTMENTSDWITH UNIMPRISONED MYONGDONG
DEFENDENTS, SINCE IN OUR VIEW IT COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS
ON POSSIBILITIES OF CLEMENCY FOR THEIR IMPRISONED COLLEAGUES.
HE WAS CAREFULLY BRIEFED ON DELICACY CURRENT
SITUATION AND WAS OF COURSE ALSO TOLD HE WAS FREE TO PROCEED
WITH MAKING APPOINTMENTS ON HIS OWN RESPONSIBILITY. SALZBERG
SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS POSITION CLEARLY BUT DISAGREED
WITH IT ON GROUNDS EMBASSY OBLIGATED TO ATTEMPT TO MAKE
WHATEVER APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED. IN THE EVENT HE DID
ARRANGE TO MAKE HIS OWN APPOINTMENTS WITH DEFENDENTS THROUGH
AMERICAN MISSIONARIES AND ALSO WITH SOME OTHERS WHOM MISSION-
ARIES ADVISED HIM TO SEE.

3. IN COURSE ONE HOUR CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS IN WHICH
SALZBERG DISPLAYED SUSPICIOUS AND CRITICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD
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EMBASSY ROLE IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA, SALZBERG ALSO QUESTIONED WHY
EMBASSY DID NO ADVISE CODEL IN ADVANCE OF REQUESTS OF OPPOSITION
LEADERS TO SEE CODEL. SALZBERG WAS TOLD AT THAT MEETING
AND IN FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION AFTER RECRODS CHECKED THAT
NO REQUESTS TO SEE CODEL MEMBERS HAD IN FACT BEEN RECEIVED.
IN FACT, EMBASSY RECEIVED ONLY ONE SUCH REQUEST BEFORE
CODEL VISIT FROM MRS. KIM DAE JUNG BUT THIS WAS TO SEE
RICHARD HOLBROOKE, NOT CODEL. YANG IL DONG ADVISED BEFORE-
HAND HE MIGHT DELIVER PETITION TO CODEL BUT REQUESTED
TO HAND PETITION TO EMBOFF SINCE HE ANTICIPATED CODEL WOULD
BE BUSY. EMBOFF RECEIVED TWO LETTERS BEFOREHAND FROM MRS.
KIM DAE JUNG ADDRESSED TO MR. WRLFF AND MR. HOLBROOKE
(SEPTEL) AND THESE WERE DELIVERED.

4. EMBASSY OFFICERS OFFERED TO ACCOMPANY SALZBERG, PROVIDE
INTERPRETING SERVICES, ETC. TO ALL MEETINGS, AS HE
WISHED, BUT IN ACCORD SALZBERG DESIRES EMBOFFS ATTENDED
ONLY YANG IL DONG AND KIM OK SUN MEETINGS. APART FROM
EXPRESSIONS OF STANDARD OPPOSITION VIEWS, THESE SESSIONS NOTABLE

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FOR SERIES OF QUESTIONS FROM SALZBERG REGARDING EMBASSY'S
CONTACTS WITH OPPOSITION, CREDIBILITY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S
HUMAN RIGHTS STAND AMONG OPPOSITION FIGURES, AND WHETHER
OPPOSITION WAS SATISFIES WITH EMBASSY'S AND SPECIFICALLY
AMBASSADOR'S ACTIVITIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. HIM OK
SUN WAS CRITICAL ON LATER TWO POINTS BUT DID ACKNOWLEDGE
SHE HAD DISCUSSED HUMAN RIGHTS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS OFTEN.
YANG WAS MORE NEUTRAL ON ALL POINTS. ONLY OTHER ACCOUNTS
WE HAVE OF SALZBERG CONVERSATIONS WAS REPORT FROM KCIA OFFICIAL
THAT YUN PO SUN TOLD SALZBERG NOT TO MAKE CONNECTION BETWEEN
HUMAN RIGHTS AND SECURITY SITUATION.

5. AMBASSADOR AND HOLBROOKE HAD SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH
SALZBERG, WHO THEN SEEMED REASONABLY SATISFIED WITH EMBASSY
HANDLING OF HIS VISIT. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD FROM KCIA AND BLUE
HOUSE SURCES THAT FACT EMBASSY DID NOT ARRANGE APPOINTMENT
WITH MYONGDONG DEFENDENTS MITIGATED RISK OF ADVERSELY
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AFFECTING FUTURE TREATMENT OF DEFENDENTS.

6. ABOVE PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENT IN SOME DETAIL IN CASE THERE
MAY BE INQUIRIES FROM CONGRESSMAN FRASER'S OFFICE.

7. FULL REPORT CODEL VISIT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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